THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d): Reserve Bank of India has reproted that in Oct. 1993 it had received certain complaints regarding grant of questionable advances by the then Chairman & Managing Director, Central Bank of India just before his retirement from the bank's service on 30-9-93. However, the Reserve Bank of India had probed into the advances sanctioned by the then CMD, Central Bank of India during the last six months of his tenure. It was observed that he has sanctioned credit facilities to 31 borrowers during the said period. Majority of these accounts are reported to be satisfactory. The main irregularity noticed was that he had sanctioned credit facilities despite the credit restraint measures enforced by the Board of Directors of the Bank w.e.f. 11th May, 1993. However, the sanctions made by the then CMD beyond his delegated powers were generally ratified by the Managing Committee of the Board of the Bank.

No case has been registered so far in this regard.

(e) and (f) whenever any complaints are received by Reserve Bank of India/Government against the top executives of Public Sector Banks, they are looked into and the matter is further probed, wherever considered necessary. A Special Investigation Cell has been created in RBI in May, 1983 and the cell deals with such complaints.

Customs and Excise Collections

5434. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the comments made by Dr. Raja Chelliah as reported in the 'Economic Times' Editorial of 26th March, 1994 that Government must outline steps for expenditure reduction, if so, what specific steps have been taken in this direction in recent months;

(b) what are the actual comparative month-wise Customs and Excise Collection for 1992 and 1993 upto to 31st March, 1994; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the apprehensions expressed in the press regarding revenue collections being low and if so, whether concrete steps have been or are being taken to reach the budget estimates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Keeping the Government expenditure under control is a continuous exercise and in this regard instructions are issued from time to time to effect economy in expenditure. These instructions include reduction in posts at various levels, ban on air travel, ban on accommodation hotel suites while on tour, reduciton in consumption of petrol/diesel, restriciton in purchase of vehicles and reduction in telephones, etc.

(b) The months-wise realisation of customs and central excise duties during 1992-93 and 1993-94 is given in the the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(c) Since the Financial year 1993-94 is already over and the provisional figures are available, the question of any apprehension regarding the low collection does not arise.

Statement

Month-wise Revenue Collection

(Rupees in crore)

Month	Customs		Excise*	
	1992-93	1993-94 (Provisional)	1992-93	1993-94 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
April	1854.21	1577.23	2116.23	2137.89
May	2225.22	1593.67	2424.99	2428.33

1	2	3	4	5
June	1982.74	1735.39	2401.78	2524.25
July	1977.66	1679.76	2337.85	2415.13
August	1917.22	1637.92	2505.34	2507.00
September	1963.38	1854.49	2645.25	2234.41
October	1869.53	1788.43	2517.81	2767.27
November	2124.95	1898.76	2629.02	2608.74
December	1891.28	2176.47	2498.34	2805.03
January	1841.25	1797.08	2587.58	2779.74
February	1859.26	1602.02	2734.05	2675.75
March	2175.07	2568.24	3253.13	3708.60
Revenue from sale of confiscated gold and silver during the year	35.51 23717.28	149.11 22058.57	30651.37	31592.14

*Exclusive of cesses not administered by the Department of Revenue.

Irregularities by Private Airlines

5435. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of certain gross irregularities committed by a private airline service with regard to the provisions of bank guarantee and/or other transacitons with banks and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to prevent such gross irregularities in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) In accordance with the practices and usages customary among banks and in the conformity with provisions of statutes governing public sector banks, information relating to individual constituents of the banks can not be divulged.

Global Tenders for Currency Presses

5436. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delay in finalising the global tenders for setting up two new currency printing presses has upset the aid programme of certain countries in this respect;

(b) if so, the names of countries which were to give aid for the purpose, stating the nature and extent of aid to be received by Government from them;

(c) what are the reasons for delay in finalising the global tenders for the new currency printing presses; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to finalise the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHAR MURTHY): (a): No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India is still in the midst of negotiations with the parties in the field and an agreement is expected to be reached shortly.

Fresh Package for Foreign Investors

5437. SHRI AHMED MOHMED-BHAI PATEL:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a fresh package of reforms to appease foreign investors:

(b) if so, what are the main points that are being considered to improve the foreign investment plans;

(c) what are the countries which have so far come forward to invest in India;